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Editor and Publisher.

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Original Poetry.

THE CONDEMNED.

I read me no moral, priest, upon my life;
I reserve that for your flock;
A few short hours will end my mortal strife
Upon the gallows block.
Before the gaping crowd who come to see
A fellow-mortal die,
Preach if you choose, and take your text from me;
To them I cannot lie.
And still the less can I, a finite man,
Pretend to cheat my God,
By whom the secrets of his mighty plan
Are clearly understood.
Conceived in lust, brought up to sordid sin,
How could I grow to be
Aught but the cat's paw he ever been—
Fruit for the gallows tree.
Go seek the children, swarming through the town,
To-day, exposed to all
The poverty and vice that dragged me down—
Have them before they fall.
But as for me, I die as I have lived,
As all men must,
Believing, as I ever have believed,
That God is just.

[For the New-York Saturday Press.]

AMERICAN PHOTOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

The regular meeting of this association was held on Monday morning last, President Draper occupying the chair. Several interesting letters were presented by the Corresponding Secretary, Mr. Whipple. Among them was one from Prof. Hardwick, of King's College, London, acknowledging his election as an honorary member, and promising to become a working one, by preparing an article to be read before this Society at an early day. The only honorary member elected at this meeting was Lieut. Maury, of the Washington Observatory.

An interesting paper from George B. Cole, Esq., of Baltimore, was read, on the remedy for certain defects in Mother's Milk. It was the result of a series of experiments by the experience of several members. The next paper presented was from Prof. Saunders, of Connecticut. "On a new double salt, the Iodo-Cyanide of Potassium." It is a saturated solution of the cyanide of potassium, which is the supposed new salt. If a small portion of this solution be dropped on stains made by nitrate of silver, the color is instantly discharged. This property will recommend it to photographers and to others who may have occasion to use the nitrate of silver. Under polarized light, a drop of the new solution presents a most gorgeous appearance during the process of crystallization. The solution is easily decomposed; however, a partial decomposition does not injure, but rather improves, its property of removing silver stains. In making this preparation, due regard should be had to the combining proportions, in order to prevent waste of material. The doctor thought the absence of dual crystallization and the presence of one which exerts peculiar action under prolonged light, were proofs of the existence of a double salt. This position did not seem to be fully proved, yet no discussion followed the reading of the paper. Cyanogen and iodine form with bases analogous compounds. If these belong to the same isomorphous group, there would be doubt about the existence of a double salt. Iodine unites with cyanogen; in this case, an Iodo-cyanide compound radical may be formed and classed with the sulpho-cyanides which unite with metals and form salts.

Mr. C. A. Seely presented the interesting subject of preparing pictures for the Stereoscope. As this instrument is fast becoming a fertile source of innocent and instructive amusement, a short report of the discussion on the subject will doubtless be acceptable. Mr. Seely laid down by Mr. David Brewster, and to the common practice of photographers. The stereoscopic image does not exceed two inches and a half in diameter, and is seen at a distance of about eight inches from the eye. If, instead of the stereoscopic, two copies of the same are substituted, a combined image of the scene will be seen at the distance of the focal length of the lenses. The observer will have no doubt of the distance or the size of the coin image. If, instead of two, two identical stereoscopic images be used, the single combined picture will be presented also at the same distance and position. The observer will have no doubt. He will with difficulty imagine that he is looking at objects of a natural size, or at a large picture at a greater distance than the focal length of the semi-lenses. It is now easily apparent that whatever objects or pictures are placed in the stereoscopic, their combined images will be seen at the same place. It will be readily admitted that in the ordinary stereoscopic, the pictures should be of such size and so placed that the centre of each may be exactly opposite the eye of the observer. As the eyes are two and a half inches apart, the stereoscopic pictures must be so mounted that their centres shall be at the same distance from each other. This condition evidently limits the diameter of the stereoscopic to two and a half inches, otherwise they could not be combined in their whole extent. The magnifying effect of the semi-lenses is so small that it may be disregarded in this discussion. We may consider the combined image as an object about eight inches from the eye, and that it is designed to give the impression of solidity or relief.

Mr. Seely proposed to show how these pictures should be made in order to give the true perspective and the true relation of several parts of the object represented. If a card two and a half inches square be placed a little inclined before the eyes, at a distance of eight inches, so that one edge shall be parallel with a line joining the eyes, on viewing it with the right eye alone, the card will not appear square, but a quadrilateral, with one right angle only, and that before the right eye. The angle diagonally opposite the right angle will be obtuse, and of the acute angle the lower one will be the more acute. If the card be viewed with the left eye alone, it will present a similar figure having the same relations to the left eye; it being in fact the first figure turned over. To represent this card in the stereoscope both these forms must be used, no others will answer the purpose. Now, if the object to be represented were a square table-top, or a landscape ten miles square, the outline of the stereoscopic will be precisely the same for corresponding positions. The rule for determining the camera stations for true stereoscopic pictures, therefore, is easily calculated. Suppose it be the problem to prepare pictures of a rectangular table, so that the image shall appear directly before the eyes with one edge parallel to the line which joins them, and of the usual width. It is evident that each picture must have one and but one right angle. The camera must be removed from the table so far as to give a picture two and a half inches in diameter. If the operator moves his instrument along the line which gives that size, he will find but two stations from which he can have the desired right angle; these stations will be on lines perpendicular to the front edge. This conclusion would also be easily arrived at by a simple process of reasoning. The eyes, on looking at the stereo-image of the table, or other object, are directly over its extremities; each eye has a certain angle of view of the image, and the camera must take the same relative position with regard to the objects in their true size and distance, that the eyes have to a reduced plan or model of them placed at the distance of eight inches. If the problem were to take a view embracing one square acre of land, we must make the camera in its positions bear the same relation to that acre which the eye would to its miniature if brought within eight inches of the observer. Having determined the points which shall be the extremities of the foreground, or, in other words, the width of the picture, the camera stations will be found in lines projected from said points and perpendicular to the line joining them, and at such distance as shall give a camera image two and a half inches in diameter.

Mr. Tillman acknowledged the importance of some of Mr. Seely's new positions, but was still inclined to the side of Mr. David Brewster. The double camera with tubes two and a half inches apart, took the place of the eyes, in the only condition in which any substitution was possible. What are the phenomena attending ordinary vision? The light of the sun is reflected from an almost infinite number of points in the landscape into the eyes. From each point there is a right line or ray to each eye; these form a parallax, so to speak, which enables the two eyes to measure or estimate distance. As there are points on every solid from which the light is reflected into only one eye, it is evident that no single picture could represent precisely the impression external nature makes. If two pictures are made, each reflecting for one eye, points not belonging to the range of the other, and are arranged so as to unite and blend those parts of the picture common to both, it is quite evident that the combination will give the observer an accurate representation of length, height, and depth. Hence the stereoscopic. Now the question presented to us is, whether the stereoscopic should delineate or distort Nature. It is quite evident that the stereoscopic can be made to give undue prominence to any objects, but it will be at the detriment of other portions of the picture. The two lines reflected from every point of the landscape, and which may be regarded as two rays from the base of the distance between the eyes form the base of a common base. If the double camera lens represent this constant line, the instrument takes the place of the eyes, and must give two pictures which will best fulfill the conditions required for conveying a true impression of distance, solidity, and shadow. Mr. Tillman thought that within the range at which eyes could estimate the parallax, say within three hundred feet, the pictures of all objects should be taken with the double tube camera. There might be cases of more extended views, where the plan proposed by Mr. Seely could be used; but in such cases, the trouble of taking the views would be greatly increased. If we always imagine the objects we see in the stereoscopic to be in miniature, and within eight inches of us, Mr. Seely may be right; but the fact that these pictures present great perspective, proves that we cannot imagine the picture always near.

Mr. Garvey followed Mr. Tillman on the same side of the question. He said those objects in the foreground were in full relief, those behind them in middle relief, those still further back in low relief, while those at the greatest distance were presented in outline; this was proved by the description once given by the Chinese, in striving to frighten an English expedition. The English sailors were what they called "cannon balls," and on their approach they turned out to be soldiers of men painted on boards.

Dr. Remond and Dr. Vandeweyer also joined the debate, the latter gentleman defending the position of Mr. Seely—the subject will probably elicit further discussion at future meetings.

A paper had been presented on the late magnetic storm, but none was received.

A communication was then made by the President, on Phosphorescence in connection with the observations read by Mr. Tillman, at the preceding meeting. He stated that there are two kinds of phosphorescence. 1st. That observed in the slow combustion of bodies as phosphorus or decaying wood. 2d. That exhibited without any combustion by certain substances after they have been exposed for a moment to the light. The luminosity of the fire-fly and other insects does not depend on the nervous system or vitality, except so far as that they voluntarily open the valves of their spiracles and admit the air to certain glands in which the combination takes place.

Having selected for microscopical research four specks and dissolved the bodies for examination, he exhibited these points, 1st, that these substances, when they shine, undergo no change of size. 2d. That by the most delicate thermometer no trace of heat could be detected. He then described the methods he had resorted to for the measurement of the light they yield at their utmost brilliancy; these were both photographic, and also direct by the process known as that of the extinction of shadows; the result being that the light emitted by the very best phosphor is not one three-thousandth part that emitted by a small oil flame. Here we see the reason why there are no traces of heat or expansion.

In conclusion, he stated that all solid substances except the metals, are phosphorescent if properly examined, and hence the property is not a peculiarity of a few bodies.

Mr. Hyller, a practical photographer, presented for the inspection of the members a large number of photographs of great size and beauty, which were regarded as being a step in advance of any before exhibited. The Society then adjourned to meet on the second Monday in October next.

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MAPLE ISLAND.

Written for the New-York Saturday Press,
BY AUGUSTUS WATERMAN.

Foreboding the dislocation of man, the crisp and yellow leaves of the forest were rapidly dropping to earth, while such as were left by the huddles head of the falling, hollowed winds of mellow Autumn. The merry mocking-bird had fled to a warmer playground, with many of his little musical brothers. Less fortunate than these, the quail, the robin, and the partridge still lingered amid their summer haunts, while the quacking duck and the long-necked goose, collecting in flocks, came screaming back to the cold waters of the rivers and lakes.

On one of these delightful, mysterious Autumn days, when the soul seems wooed from the body, and floats imperceptibly from earth and its groveling race into the angelic purities of the spirit-land, two youths pushed out into the lovely Illinois river and proceeded down stream. The red and golden leaves of the dense timber which lined the river banks on either side, in this time rendered doubly brilliant, as the departing sunbeams lingered about the banks and tinged them with changing hues. Not a sound marred the witching stillness, save the light and measured dipping of the oars, and the occasional hammering of some lonely woodpecker on the trunk of a hollow tree. A gentle breeze just ruffled the surface of the water, and whispered among the crisp leaves, while not one defiling speck was to be seen throughout the broad expanse that stretched above their heads.

Cherishing and steadily they piloted the paddles, and rapidly they glided along the lovely stream. Suddenly an object caught the eye of Martin, and turning to his companion so eagerly as to nearly upset the boat, he exclaimed:

"Do you see that?" at the same instant pointing to an animal that was swimming across the river some distance in their wake.

"What the deuce can it be?"

"As I live, it's a wolf!"

"No, it's a young bear!"

"Silence! I'll shoot it, whatever it is," said Martin, catching up his rifle and taking aim.

"Stop!" cried his companion, seizing his arm and preventing him; "now I bethink me, it's the dog!"

"What!"

"We actually shoved off without taking him in!" And now they laughed heartily, as Milo neared the boat, and Martin proceeded to hoist him aboard. Again the dog dipped into the gray water and the splash upon him. None but those who have breathed the fragrant air of a prairie stream, can fully appreciate the feelings of our western sportsmen as they now watched the lengthening shadows of the woods.

A mile had been traversed, and now they were in sight of famous Maple Island. Grandly loomed its tall oaks and spreading maples from the bed of the Illinois with the pure whiteness of their petals upon its bark. At length they had snugly stranded their skiff and conveyed the contents of the lockers to the shore.

And now we will unfold to the reader what they purposed doing. Upon that end of the island whereon they had landed, toward a huge oak whose base was entirely hollowed out. The extreme due of the cavity, and the remarkable smoothness of its interior had caused the tree to become quite celebrated about the region, and the cavern was generally known as "Maple Island Lodge." It was sufficiently capacious to afford sleeping accommodations for about three persons. In this respectable, then, it was the intention of our heroes to deposit their blankets and coats, presently to enter themselves, and therein pass the night. My sporting friends will at once divine the object of this maneuver, while, for the edification of those unhappy enough to be without the pale of that fraternity, I will remark that early dawn is the aptest time for bagging ducks and geese. And about the shores of this lovely island, these species of the airy tribe were wont to collect at this season of the year in great numbers. While our adventures are engaged in re-considering, I will endeavor to acquaint my reader with its quiet beauty. Maple, walnut, and oak trees here flourished in great abundance. About their giant limbs the grapes wound like tough and wiry stems, while between their sturdy trunks the hard-bark and papaw tree found room in a less dignified growth. Owing to the majority being maples, and the convenience with which the place could be reached, certain enterprising individuals in the sap and sugar line had made it the scene of their annual spring labors. Consequently, a cabin built of massive logs, notched at either end, and provided with a huge trough, will not be deemed entirely fabulous, when I assert that this was placed directly in the centre of the island. Winter's snow and summer's rain, however, had begun to make and havoc among the logs, one or two of them having entirely rotted through, while half of the low ponderous mass had fallen from the roof and remained leaning against the outer side.

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"We actually shoved off without taking him in!" And now they laughed heartily, as Milo neared the boat, and Martin proceeded to hoist him aboard. Again the dog dipped into the gray water and the splash upon him. None but those who have breathed the fragrant air of a prairie stream, can fully appreciate the feelings of our western sportsmen as they now watched the lengthening shadows of the woods.

A mile had been traversed, and now they were in sight of famous Maple Island. Grandly loomed its tall oaks and spreading maples from the bed of the Illinois with the pure whiteness of their petals upon its bark. At length they had snugly stranded their skiff and conveyed the contents of the lockers to the shore.

And now we will unfold to the reader what they purposed doing. Upon that end of the island whereon they had landed, toward a huge oak whose base was entirely hollowed out. The extreme due of the cavity, and the remarkable smoothness of its interior had caused the tree to become quite celebrated about the region, and the cavern was generally known as "Maple Island Lodge." It was sufficiently capacious to afford sleeping accommodations for about three persons. In this respectable, then, it was the intention of our heroes to deposit their blankets and coats, presently to enter themselves, and therein pass the night. My sporting friends will at once divine the object of this maneuver, while, for the edification of those unhappy enough to be without the pale of that fraternity, I will remark that early dawn is the aptest time for bagging ducks and geese. And about the shores of this lovely island, these species of the airy tribe were wont to collect at this season of the year in great numbers. While our adventures are engaged in re-considering, I will endeavor to acquaint my reader with its quiet beauty. Maple, walnut, and oak trees here flourished in great abundance. About their giant limbs the grapes wound like tough and wiry stems, while between their sturdy trunks the hard-bark and papaw tree found room in a less dignified growth. Owing to the majority being maples, and the convenience with which the place could be reached, certain enterprising individuals in the sap and sugar line had made it the scene of their annual spring labors. Consequently, a cabin built of massive logs, notched at either end, and provided with a huge trough, will not be deemed entirely fabulous, when I assert that this was placed directly in the centre of the island. Winter's snow and summer's rain, however, had begun to make and havoc among the logs, one or two of them having entirely rotted through, while half of the low ponderous mass had fallen from the roof and remained leaning against the outer side.

It was quite dark when Martin and his comrade returned to the oak, and they now hurriedly proceeded to build a fire. Having collected a great heap of dead leaves and branches, they soon had them burning in a great abundance. About their giant limbs the grapes wound like tough and wiry stems, while between their sturdy trunks the hard-bark and papaw tree found room in a less dignified growth. Owing to the majority being maples, and the convenience with which the place could be reached, certain enterprising individuals in the sap and sugar line had made it the scene of their annual spring labors. Consequently, a cabin built of massive logs, notched at either end, and provided with a huge trough, will not be deemed entirely fabulous, when I assert that this was placed directly in the centre of the island. Winter's snow and summer's rain, however, had begun to make and havoc among the logs, one or two of them having entirely rotted through, while half of the low ponderous mass had fallen from the roof and remained leaning against the outer side.

A paper had been presented on the late magnetic storm, but none was received.

A communication was then made by the President, on Phosphorescence in connection with the observations read by Mr. Tillman, at the preceding meeting. He stated that there are two kinds of phosphorescence. 1st. That observed in the slow combustion of bodies as phosphorus or decaying wood. 2d. That exhibited without any combustion by certain substances after they have been exposed for a moment to the light. The luminosity of the fire-fly and other insects does not depend on the nervous system or vitality, except so far as that they voluntarily open the valves of their spiracles and admit the air to certain glands in which the combination takes place.

Having selected for microscopical research four specks and dissolved the bodies for examination, he exhibited these points, 1st, that these substances, when they shine, undergo no change of size. 2d. That by the most delicate thermometer no trace of heat could be detected. He then described the methods he had resorted to for the measurement of the light they yield at their utmost brilliancy; these were both photographic, and also direct by the process known as that of the extinction of shadows; the result being that the light emitted by the very best phosphor is not one three-thousandth part that emitted by a small oil flame. Here we see the reason why there are no traces of heat or expansion.

In conclusion, he stated that all solid substances except the metals, are phosphorescent if properly examined, and hence the property is not a peculiarity of a few bodies.

Mr. Hyller, a practical photographer, presented for the inspection of the members a large number of photographs of great size and beauty, which were regarded as being a step in advance of any before exhibited. The Society then adjourned to meet on the second Monday in October next.

—Madre. Erasmus Drouot, a pupil of Remond, who at the age of eighteen obtained the prize for "poetic instruction," has recently arrived from France, and has been appointed to the position of French Academy at New York. He is now 25 years of age, and is described as "a child of the people," and a French living upon his earnings in the midst of her family of artisans. Her parents add to her own great merit.

With a steady hand, carefully making his place, he lay on a mass of shot among the great little specks. "Hark! hark! hark!" screamed all but two, who, with a great sweep from the water, were instantly saved away. "Hark! hark! hark!" cried the third, who, with a great sweep from the water, was instantly saved away. "Hark! hark! hark!" cried the third, who, with a great sweep from the water, was instantly saved away.

Foreboding the dislocation of man, the crisp and yellow leaves of the forest were rapidly dropping to earth, while such as were left by the huddles head of the falling, hollowed winds of mellow Autumn. The merry mocking-bird had fled to a warmer playground, with many of his little musical brothers. Less fortunate than these, the quail, the robin, and the partridge still lingered amid their summer haunts, while the quacking duck and the long-necked goose, collecting in flocks, came screaming back to the cold waters of the rivers and lakes.

This little church-episode amused me as much as the personal theme in the daily papers—the Tribune for instance. Yes, I confess the suburban fact, I cry pshaw—for it's indeed true that I read the organ of the white-coated philosopher, and that "Give us this day our daily Tribune," forms a prominent part of my morning prayer.

I read that Mr. Belmont has discarded coachman and footman, and has substituted postillions and outsiders. Momentous announcement! Almost equal to that of Mr. Everett sending his son to England! Alas, what hope is there now for humble, poor people, who make pretensions to respectability—no, for instance, who can afford no postillions and outsiders? None, absolutely none. Then ride on, O! Belmont, and ye admiring papers chronicle his movements, while I, contenting myself with dignified obscurity, remain vulgar and common-place!

But my intellectual passion is not found exclusively in the Tribune. No, the Fates forbid! For semi-occasionally I glance into a book, and have recently read Michael's "L'Amour," which acquaints old ladies, and super-refined moralists, condemn. A work of talent, plainly written, always correct, still, and as I told Jacob the other day, the evil in a book is often only the shadow of ourselves. I have also read "Idyls of the King." Tennyson has the most exquisite sense imaginable, of what might be called, in art-philosophy, poetic clairvoyance. The lights and shades of his thought and expression, are blended and interfused with a delicacy of tint and tone, that stamp him at once a consummate artist;

